

We present a method that has simplicity, a maximum of surety and as much safety as the simplest elective laparotomy.

It is a modification of Madlener's ligature and resection, using an *absorbable* ligature at the base of a loop of tube removed from its middle portion. A serous exudate forms, and, after absorption of the catgut, sterility depends upon the peritoneal barrier over the separated tubal ends.

#### 4. STERILIZATION BY IRRADIATION

IRA I. KAPLAN

During the past 30 years sterilization by irradiation has become an effective method of treatment. Originally the action of irradiation was thought to be only on the ovaries, today it is known to effect both ovaries and uterine tissues.

X-ray therapy is used in small repeated doses over several weeks and a small quantity of radium inserted in the uterus over a long period of time.

Sterilization may be indicated for conditions grouped as:

- A. Medical
- B. Surgical
- C. Gynecological
- D. Social

Sterilization follows as a necessity when treating malignancy of the gynecological tract and carcinoma of the breast.

A. Irradiation is chosen because:

- 1. Of absence of mortality or morbidity.
- 2. To one qualified, it provides a modality easily employed.
- 3. Properly administered irradiation can permanently sterilize.

B. Irradiation is chosen:

- 1. In cardio-renal diseases where surgery is contra-indicated.
- 2. In tuberculosis patients, where pregnancy is hazardous.
- 3. In treating breast malignancy in young women with menstrual function still active.

4. In menopausal symptoms to hasten menopause.
  5. In endometriosis.
- C. Methods employed :
1. X-Ray.
  2. Radium.
- D. Effectiveness of irradiation depends on :
1. Age—The younger, the less permanent the sterilization.
  2. Intensity.
  3. Physical characteristics.
- E. Complications and Sequelae.

When properly employed irradiation sterilization is of equal worth and effectiveness with surgery without its associated mortality and morbidity.

## 5. STERILIZATION FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE INTERNIST

JOHN WYCKOFF

The interest of the internist in the subject of sterilization is concerned principally with the effect of pregnancy on chronic disease.

Successful pregnancies have been reported in chronic leukemia. Anemia of the Addisonian type can be treated. Congenital haemophilia presents a problem due to transmission.

Hyperthyroidism is exaggerated by pregnancy. Diabetes is no contra-indication. Maladies of the digestive tract offer little indication.

Renal disease and hypertension are considered from: 1) influence *of* pregnancy *on* glomerulonephritis and essential hypertension: 2) influence *on* pregnancy *of* glomerulonephritis, essential hypertension and previous toxemia. Active glomerulonephritis is a contra-indication to pregnancy, especially when renal function is impaired.

Uncomplicated essential hypertension is rarely a contra-indication to pregnancy, unless complicated by retinal hemorrhage and when before pregnancy the diastolic pressure is high. Myocardial involvement due to coronary disease or previous cerebral accident are contra-indications.